Joe Robles

DDHU Deputy Commander Receives DLA Superior Civilian Service Citation— Joe Robles Recognized for Exceptional Performance

Joe Robles, Deputy Commander, Defense Distribution Depot Hill, UT (DDHU), was presented with the DLA Superior Civilian Service Citation by BG James Pillsbury, USA, Commander, Defense Distribution Center (DDC).

Robles was commended for his exceptional performance as Acting Commander at DDHU for the period of August 2000 to July 2001. During this period, Robles' outstanding leadership was instrumental in maintaining distribution performance and customer service levels during a period of change and additional duties not normally found at all DDC distribution centers.

"Civilians like Joe Robles are the reason DDC is leading the way to good distribution practices," BG Pillsbury said. "I am proud to honor him, as he honors us with his hard work and dedication."

DDHU is located at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, which is also home to the Ogden Air Logistics Center (ALC). Depot employees perform key distribution operations that support the maintenance functions performed by the Ogden Air Logistics Center. Primary distribution support to the Ogden ALC is provided for the Minuteman and Peacekeeper missiles and the Emergency Rocket Communication System; the F-16 Fighting Falcon; the C-130 Hercules; and Air Force-wide depot level overhaul and repair for all types of landing gear, wheels, brakes and tires.

Another major mission performed by DDHU is assembly of the Army's Deployable Medical Systems or DEPMEDS. These self-contained, portable units are capable of being positioned quickly in an area of operations during war or a national emergency. The Hill Depot assembles, modifies, repairs, rebuilds, certifies and stores the modular units that can contain operating rooms, x-ray equipment, blood labs and pharmacies. DEPMEDS can range in size from a single unit general-purpose lab to a 1,000-bed hospital containing 12,000 line items.

Robles' leadership at DDHU maintained distribution performance while the relocation of the DEPMEDS material was accomplished on a timely basis. The construction of the new DEPMEDS facility gave rise to many difficulties to include contractor timeliness of completion to resulting construction deficiencies. Through DDHU teamwork with the DDC, DLA and the Sacramento District Corps of Engineers, each issue was worked through that enabled a timely occupancy to meet Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) requirements.

Robles' and the DDHU A-76 team also completed the work assignments with the DDC A-76 Program Office to assure valid work statements and Most Efficient Organizations (MEOs) were developed. The A-76 team also worked to identify and implement re-engineered processes. A-76 is a method to help reduce costs by comparing the cost of performing DLA commercial activities using DLA personnel with the private sector cost. The competition between the public and private sector results in lower costs and increased efficiency.

During Robles' tenure as Acting Commander, the DDHU Transportation Division received an award at the Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC) Transportation Conference. The Award was for the Astray Freight Program recovering the highest dollar value of material during calendar year 2000 (over $4 Million).

Environmental programs are typically long-term commitments of a delicate, sensitive nature that could be stymied with any change. However, during Robles' tenure as Acting Commander, he and his team were able to accomplish improvements to numerous environmental programs

Robles' activities also presented great examples of excellence in customer support, including obtaining substantial commercial trucking support to customers on very short notice; sending DDHU personnel to customers to provide on-site assistance, and providing transportation for US Allies visiting while the US.

Robles' distinctive accomplishments and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself, the Defense Distribution Center, and the Defense Logistics Agency.